ARE GOOD GRADES AN INDICATION OF A CHILD’S SUCCESS?

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Grades are mostly one of the contributing factors in determining a child’s journey into college, scholarships and even in workplace. Good grades can lead into taking desired courses, granting of free tuition fees, subsidies and allowances allotted for studies and applying for well-respected jobs. They say that having a good grade can lead you into many places, but are they really a good indication of a child’s success?

Grades are best indicator in measuring a child’s learning in school. According to Dr. Benjamin Bloom, proponent of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning, the three domains of learning are Cognitive, Affective and Psychomotor. Cognitive Domain includes the mental and intellectual skills covering exams, recitations, quizzes, assignments and projects on which assessment of such can determine grades. High scores on these activities indicate good grades. Since mostly of the activities in schools are under the cognitive learning, these are mostly the basis of giving high grades to students. The Affective Domain determines the way on how we deal with things emotionally which includes feelings, motivations, values and attitudes. However Psychomotor Domain determines motor-skill areas of learning which mostly includes physical activities. Sadly, the Affective and Psychomotor Domains are rare basis of giving high grades to students. Most teachers are more focus on the assessment of the cognitive are of learning which should not be only the basis of giving good grades. A grade of a child should not merely focus on their mental intelligence but should also be expanded to its emotional and physical intelligence as all three have integral part towards a child’s success.
There are so many famous people with inspiring stories that can prove that you don’t need good grades in order to be successful. There’s Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg and Steve Jobs who are now well-known with how they reach success even without achieving high grades in their school. These people does not teach you to stop pursuing your studies but rather encourage you to keep on going and don’t stop on reaching your goal. By maximizing their affective and psychomotor domain learning – passion, grit, strong-will, determination and moving forward – they were able to change the world.

Grades don’t define you and it’s just a standard of the society of how they will accept you. Grades are just numbers describing of you how you have performed in a certain area in your life. It is true that good grades are indicators of success, but also is character, which is not indicated in the report card, will bring you also to success.

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